

IN THE CLAIMS

1           7.   (Currently amended)   A method for manufacturing a  
2   wet friction material obtained by immersing binding agent  
3   into a paper body comprised of fiber base material and  
4   filler, comprising:

5           a first immersing step of immersing first binding  
6   agent, that comprises a phenol resin, into said paper body;

7           a second immersing step of immersing second binding  
8   agent, that comprises a silicon resin, into said paper body  
9   after said first immersing step; and

10          a heating and curing step of heating and curing said  
11   paper body into which said first and second binding agents  
12   were immersed,

13          wherein said friction material has a first layer and a  
14   second layer and wherein at said first immersing step said  
15   first bonding agent is immersed into said first layer and  
16   at said second immersing step said second bonding agent is  
17   immersed into said second layer.

1           8.   (Currently amended)   A method according to claim  
2   7, wherein said binding agents have a solvent therein and  
3   drying steps of removing solvent in said binding agents  
4   immersed into said paper body are provided between said

5 first immersing step and said second immersing step and  
6 between said second immersing step and said heating and  
7 curing step, respectively.

1 9. (previously added) A method according to claim 7,  
2 wherein only said first binding agent is immersed in said  
3 first layer, and said first and second binding agents are  
4 immersed in said second layer.

Claims 10 and 11 (cancelled)

1 12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim  
2 ~~[[10]]~~7, wherein the silicon resin of said second binding  
3 agent comprises a cured material of hydrolysis liquid of  
4 silane coupling agent.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

1 14. (Previously added) A method for manufacturing a  
2 wet friction material obtained by immersing binding agent  
3 into a paper body comprised of fiber base material and  
4 filler, comprising:

5           a first immersing step of immersing first binding  
6   agent comprising phenol resin into said paper body;  
7           a second immersing step of immersing second binding  
8   agent comprising silicon resin into said paper body after  
9   said first immersing step; and  
10          a heating and curing step of heating and curing said  
11   paper body into which said first and second binding agents  
12   were immersed.

1           15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim  
2   14, wherein said binding agents have a solvent therein and  
3   drying steps of removing solvent in said binding agents  
4   immersed into said paper body are provided between said  
5   first immersing step and said second immersing step and  
6   between said second immersing step and said heating and  
7   curing step, respectively.

1           16. (Previously added) A method according to claim  
2   14, wherein said wet friction material has a first layer  
3   and a second layer, and at said first immersing step said  
4   first binding agent is immersed into said first layer and  
5   at said second immersing step said second binding agent is  
6   immersed into said second layer.

1           17. (Previously added) A method according to claim  
2 16, wherein only said first binding agent is immersed in  
3 said first layer, and said first and second binding agents  
4 are immersed in said second layer.

1           18. (Currently amended) A method for manufacturing a  
2 friction plate, comprising:

3           providing a body and a core plate to which a first  
4 side of the body is to be secured;

5           applying a first binding agent, that comprises a  
6 phenol resin, to said one side of the body to impregnate a  
7 first layer of said body with said first binding agent;

8           applying a second binding agent, that comprises a  
9 silicon resin, to a second side of the body to impregnate a  
10 second layer of the body with said second binding agent;

11 and

12           securing the first side of the body to the core plate  
13 and leaving the second side of the body exposed as a  
14 frictional engagement surface.

1           19. (Previously added) A method according to claim  
2 18, wherein the first binding agent impregnates both layers

3 of the body and the second binding agent impregnates only  
4 the second layer.

1

Claims 20 and 21 (cancelled)

1 22. (Previously added) A method according to claim  
2 18, wherein the body is a paper body comprised of fiber  
3 based material and filler.

23. (Cancelled)

1 24. (Currently amended) A method according to claim  
2 ~~[[23]]~~18, wherein the silicon resin of said second binding  
3 agent comprises a cured material of hydrolysis liquid of  
4 silane coupling agent.

1 25. (Currently amended) A method according to claim  
2 18, wherein the binding agents in the first and second  
3 layers are heated and cured after they have been applied.

1 26. (Currently amended) A method for manufacturing a  
2 wet friction material including a body having a front side  
3 and a reverse side, comprising:

4        applying a first binding agent, that comprises a  
5        phenol resin, to the reverse side of the body to impregnate  
6        a first layer of the body with the first binding agent; and  
7        applying a second binding agent, that comprises a  
8        silicon resin, to the front side of the body to impregnate  
9        a second layer of the body with the second binding agent,  
10       wherein the first and second binding agents are  
11       selected so that the second binding agent provides a  
12       ~~desired~~predetermined coefficient of friction and the first  
13       binding agent suppresses weakness of the second binding  
14       agent while maintaining elasticity of the second binding  
15       agent.

1       27.    (Previously added) A method according to claim  
2       26, wherein the body is a paper body, ~~the first binding~~  
3       ~~agent comprises a phenol resin and the second binding agent~~  
4       ~~comprises a silicon resin.~~